

Remarks

The Office Action dated April 20, 2004, and made final, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-16, 18, 19, and 27-37 are now pending in this application. Claims 33-37 are allowed. Claims 1-16, 18-19, and 27-32 are rejected. Claims 1, 8, 9, 15, 18, 28, and 31 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a three-month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated April 20, 2004 for the above-identified patent application from July 20, 2004 through and including October 20, 2004. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of \$980.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.

The rejection of Claims 1-7 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended Claim 1 and respectfully submit that Claim 1 particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which the Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 2-7 and 27-29 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the section 112 rejection to Claims 1-7 and 27-29 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-16, 18-19, and 27-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pildner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,625,338) in view of McClure (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,731), is respectfully traversed.

Pildner et al. describe a control panel including a receiver (6) as well as a transmitter (8) (column 3, lines 5-10). The control panel can receive RF signals from any of the components of a security system, namely a keypad (16), a sounder (40) or any of a plurality of sensors (50) (column 3, lines 5-10). The control panel is also connected to a telephone channel (12) by means of which it can contact a central monitoring service, should an alarm or trouble condition require reporting (column 3, lines 9-13). A keypad cooperates with the control panel and receives and transmits

signals therebetween (column 4, lines 35-38). The keypad then communicates a state, function or information to the control panel (column 5, lines 50-52).

McClure describes a main control unit (12) connected via an RJ 31 connector to an incoming telephone line (9) with connections to a selected alarm or alarm monitoring company such as burglar alarm companies or other types (column 4, lines 40-44). The RJ 31 connector allows the alarm monitoring company to take control of the main control unit, if necessary (column 4, lines 44-46).

Claim 1 recites a phone-interface device, comprising “a receiver configured to receive a wireless signal from a control panel that receives signals from at least two sensors and that determines whether to send an alarm report to said phone interface device, wherein the wireless signal from the control panel encodes information regarding a sensor event monitored by a monitoring station; a phone port configured to connect to a telephone line and to receive configuration data from the monitoring station, wherein the phone-interface device including the receiver and the phone port is a device separate than the control panel that receives the signals from the at least two sensors; and a power supply comprising the telephone line.”

Neither Pildner et al. nor McClure, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a phone-interface device as recited in Claim 1. Specifically, neither Pildner et al. nor McClure, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest the phone-interface device including the receiver and the phone port is a device separate than the control panel that receives the signals from the at least two sensors. Rather, Pildner et al. describe a keypad and a control panel including a receiver and a transmitter. The control panel can receive RF signals from any of a plurality of sensors and is connected to a telephone channel by means of which it can contact a central monitoring service. The keypad cooperates with the control panel and receives and transmits signals therebetween. McClure describes a main control unit connected via an RJ 31 connector to an incoming telephone line with connections to a selected alarm or alarm monitoring company. Accordingly, neither Pildner et al. nor McClure, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest the phone-interface device including the receiver and the phone port is a device separate than the control panel. For the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Pildner et al. in view of McClure.

Claims 2-7 and 27-29 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-7 and 27-29 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-7 and 27-29 likewise are patentable over Pildner et al. in view of McClure.

Claim 8 recites a phone-interface device, comprising “a phone port configured to connect to a telephone line and to receive configuration data from a monitoring station, wherein the monitoring station monitors a sensor event based on signals generated by a sensor; a transmitter configured to send the configuration data via a wireless signal to a control panel, wherein the control panel is configured to receive the signals from the sensor, and the phone-interface device including the transmitter and the phone port is a device separate than the control panel that receives the signals from the sensor; and a power supply comprising the telephone line.”

Neither Pildner et al. nor McClure, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a phone-interface device as recited in Claim 8. Specifically, neither Pildner et al. nor McClure, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest the phone-interface device including the transmitter and the phone port is a device separate than the control panel that receives the signals from the sensor. Rather, Pildner et al. describe a keypad and a control panel including a receiver and a transmitter. The control panel can receive RF signals from any of a plurality of sensors and is connected to a telephone channel by means of which it can contact a central monitoring service. The keypad cooperates with the control panel and receives and transmits signals therebetween. McClure describes a main control unit connected via an RJ 31 connector to an incoming telephone line with connections to a selected alarm or alarm monitoring company. Accordingly, none of neither Pildner et al. nor McClure, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest the phone-interface device including the transmitter and the phone port is a device separate than the control panel. For the reasons set forth above, Claim 8 is submitted to be patentable over Pildner et al. in view of McClure.

Claims 9-16, 18, 19, and 30-32 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 8. When the recitations of Claims 9-16, 18, 19, and 30-32 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants submit that

dependent Claims 9-16, 18, 19, and 30-32 likewise are patentable over Pildner et al. in view of McClure.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 1-16, 18-19, and 27-32 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Tersillo", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Tersillo
Registration No. 42,180
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070